(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to invite private parties to step up indigenous oil production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The indigenous production of crude oil during 1989-90 was about 34.09 Million Tonnes as against the consumption of 51.94 Million Tonnes.

(b) and (c) The size and number of exploratory wells in a basin depend upon the number of prospects present in the basin and their volume as well as depth of reserves.

(d) The proposal regarding inviting private parties to explore for oil and gas in India under a fourth round of bidding is under consideration of the Government.

Supply of Natural Gas to Ahmedabad City through Pipelines

*112. SHRI ANATRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat Government has made a proposal to the Central Government for supply of natural gas to Ahmedabad city through a pipeline; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the present availability and existing commitments of gas in the region it has not yet been possible to allocate natural gas for the project.

Survey Report on the Allotment of New LPG Distributorships in Tripura

*113. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Oil Corporation has submitted a Survey Report identifying some new areas for allotment of new LPG distributorships;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to appoint new LPG distributors at Agartala and Belonia towns of Tripura;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the criteria for selection of new areas or places for LPG distribution?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The survey has established potential for setting up new Distributorships at Agartala, Belonia, Telimuro and Bishalgarh towns. These would be commissioned in a phased manner depending upon product availability.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) According to the present policy LPG Distributorships are being introduced in towns/cities with a population of 20,000 and above (as per 1931 census) in a phased manner, which offer viable distributorships, subject to overall product availability.

अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों को एल० पी० जी० वितरकों के रूप में नियुक्ति

*114. श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : क्या पैट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एल०पी० जी. का डीलर नियुक्त किये जाने के के मामले में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों के लिये 25 प्रतिशत आरक्षण का प्रावधान है ;